

PATENT

REMARKS

The Office Action dated May 17, 2006 has been received and carefully considered. Reconsideration of the outstanding rejection in the present application is respectfully requested based on the following remarks.

Allowability of Claims 11 and 25

The Applicant notes with appreciation the indication at page 10 of the Office Action that claims 11 and 25 are allowed.

Anticipation Rejection of Claims 1-10, 12-24 and 26-30

At page 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-10, 12-24 and 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Epperson et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0040343). This rejection is hereby respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites a power detector coupled to an output of a gain control stage. These elements are not disclosed or suggested by Epperson. Epperson discloses a system for controlling amplification of a carrier signal based on a control signal. In particular, Epperson discloses power amplifier circuitry 44 controlled by power control circuitry 46. *Epperson*, FIG. 1; [0031]. The power amplifier control circuitry 44 is controlled by a control signal VRAMP provided by a control system 32. *Id.* The power amplifier circuitry 44 amplifies a carrier signal to an appropriate level for transmission. *Id.* at [0031].

According to the Office Action at pages 5-6, op-amps 60, 62, and 64 of the power control circuit 42 constitute the gain control stage recited in claim 1, while items 60, 62, 64 of the power amplifier circuitry 44 and items 74, 70, and 78 of the power control circuitry 46 constitute the power detector identified in claim 1. Assuming *arguendo* that this is a correct characterization of Epperson, none of the items identified as a power detector is coupled to an output of the items identified as the gain control stage as recited in claim 1. As illustrated in FIG. 2 of Epperson, the op-amps 60, 62 and 64 are coupled to *outputs* of the voltage regulator 70. Thus, under the characterization of Epperson set forth in the Office Action, the input of gain control stage of Epperson is coupled to an output of the power detector, while claim 1 recites a power detector coupled to an output of the gain control stage.

PATENT

Further, claim 1 recites the power detector to detect a ramp of the amplified signal and to provide an indication of the ramp. These elements are not disclosed or suggested by Epperson. As explained above, the control signal VRAMP of Epperson is provided by a control system 32. *Id.*, FIG. 1. There is no disclosure that the signal VRAMP is a ramp of an amplified signal provided by a gain control stage as recited by claim 1. Assuming *arguendo* that the op-amps 60, 62, and 64 of Epperson constitute a gain control stage, there is no disclosure in Epperson that the signal VRAMP is a ramp of the output signal RFOUT illustrated in FIG. 2. Accordingly Epperson does not disclose or suggest the power detector to detect a ramp of the amplified signal and to provide an indication of the ramp.

Claims 2-10 and 12-16 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, Epperson fails to disclose each and every element of these claims, at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 1. Further, these claims recite additional novel features.

With respect to claim 17, the claim recites "amplifying the RF signal with a gain control stage to produce an amplified signal" and "detecting a ramp of the amplified signal." As explained above, Epperson does not disclose detecting a ramp of an amplified signal produced by a gain control stage. Accordingly, Epperson fails to disclose each and every element of claim 17.

Claims 18-24 and 26-30 depend from claim 17. Accordingly, Epperson fails to disclose each and every element of these claims, at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 17. Further, these claims recite additional novel features.

In view of the forgoing, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-10, 12-24, and 26-30 is improper. Withdrawal of this rejection and reconsideration of the claims therefore is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

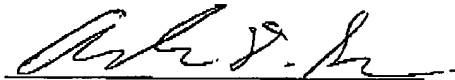
The Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed telephone number in order to expedite resolution of any issues and to expedite passage of the present

PATENT

application to issue, if any comments, questions, or suggestions arise in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-3797.

Respectfully submitted,



Adam D. Sheehan; Reg. No. 42,146
LARSON NEWMAN ABEL POLANSKY & WHITE, LLP
5914 West Courtyard Dr., Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78730
(512) 439-7100 (phone)
(512) 439-7199 (fax)

7/3/06
Date